

So here in a makeshift base camp, we have a brigade headquarters with few reservists to command and no regular Army commander to support. The feeling throughout the ranks is that we are being held in place while someone tries to think of something for us to do. We've been assured that new orders will be published "any day now," but we've heard that before.

The advantage of experienced reservists to a unit is immeasurable. But here in Iraq, I am hearing more soldiers talk about calling it quits when they return to the States. Even though some soldiers are only four or five years from qualifying for retirement pay and benefits, they're getting out. The constant deployments are difficult for families and careers, they say, and waiting around for retirement benefits is no longer worth it.

The evidence I see in other units around me is the same: the United States Army is about to see a mass exodus from its Reserve.

For me, the length of time I spend in Iraq is less important than getting the job done right. I don't want my son to have to come here in five years because we messed it up. But if the Army continues its policy of year-plus tours for its Reserve forces in Iraq and elsewhere, it will soon find those ranks empty.

The question the Army faces is simple: will more frequent, extended deployments dry up the Reserve pool? We need an answer soon. If the Reserve continue to be misused, soldiers will vote with their feet when they get home. By then it will be too late for the Army to figure out what went wrong.

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld has said that we need to be fair to reservists, their families and their employers. If reservists are forced to spend too much time on active duty, he said, "we're going to end up losing them, and we can't afford to lose them."

From my perspective, however, we're already losing them. The real impact of the Army's policy on Reserve deployments won't be felt until long after his watch. But because everything bad that happens is the commander's fault, Mr. Rumsfeld's tenure may be remembered less for its battlefield victories than for the damage it caused to the morale of the Army.

#### HONORING MAX AND VERDA FOSTER

#### HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 23, 2003*

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to posthumously honor Max and Verda Foster who are receiving the "Pioneer Award" from the California Poultry Federation. As the founders of Foster Farms, they provided countless economic opportunities to local workers and shaped the poultry industry today.

Max and Verda Foster launched Foster Farms in 1939 on an 80-acre ranch just outside of Modesto, CA. With a small loan and his earnings as City Editor of The Modesto Bee the couple was able to raise their first batch of chickens and turkeys. Dedicated to their vision of providing better, safer farm products to the consumer they expanded their company to dairy as well as poultry. Blazing the path in both the dairy and poultry industry they remained steadfast in their determination to uphold the principles upon which Foster Farms was founded: Excellence, Honesty, Quality, and Service.

Always a leader in the industry, Foster Farms always accepted and embraced new technology. In fact, the Fosters were often leaders in this arena as well. With the consumer in mind, Max Foster worked to revolutionize the industry by computerizing both the poultry and dairy operations. Many of his ideas are still in use today.

Not only were the Fosters dedicated to the consumer but also dedicated to protecting farm land as well. They always used natural chicken fertilizer on their dairies and led the industry by having the first Manurial Lagoon. Both Foster Farms' dairy and poultry products continue to be hormone free.

The Fosters' impact can be felt among many in their local community as well. Foster Farms currently employs more than 9,000 people in their poultry and dairy operations. They are one of the largest employers in Stanislaus County. The vision and passion for quality shared by Max and Vera Foster in 1939 remains the legacy of every Foster Farms employee today. Leading it to become the largest poultry company in the Western United States with annual sales in excess of \$1 billion. It is my honor and distinction to recognize the efforts of Max and Verda Foster and to represent their legacy Foster Farms in the 18th Congressional District.

#### HONORING MAY W. NEWBURGER

#### HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 23, 2003*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of May Newburger, who is serving her fifth term as North Hempstead Town Supervisor. May is an asset to our community, and an excellent role model for our younger generations. Put simply, May is my role model.

Many Long Islanders know May Newburger as the first female chief executive of a Nassau County town, but she is much, much more than that. A graduate of Hunter College and Columbia University, May is an intelligent woman who has worked on local, state and national issues.

Before becoming supervisor, May spent 2 years as a town councilwoman and 8 years as a New York State assemblywoman. She has worked extensively on behalf of women and children by serving as a New York State delegate to the National White House Conference on Families, chairing the American Jewish Congress' National Commission on Women's Equality, among other committees and commissions.

May's efforts are endless. Under May's responsible and practical supervision, North Hempstead has transformed a \$7 million budget deficit to a \$7.7 million surplus. In fact, the town was the first on Long Island to adopt a debt reduction plan that emphasized the need for long-term strategies. May has built a reputation around her dedication to the environment, securing \$200,000 from the Environmental Protection Agency to designate New Cassel as a Brownfields Pilot Community. She is continually working to protect and preserve our local lands and waterways.

Today, as May Newburger nears her retirement, I honor her for her numerous contribu-

tions to our community. May is the reason that I, along with many other women, had the courage to enter politics and government service. Not a day goes by without me reflecting on or using something May has taught me, and I am proud to call her my friend and mentor.

Mr. Speaker, I thank May Newburger on behalf of each and every person whose life she has improved over her years of service.

#### FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH'S 300TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 23, 2003*

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, the First Congregational Church of Rochester, Massachusetts, in the district which I am privileged to represent, will mark a very impressive occasion—the church's 300th Anniversary. During these 300 years—which of course predate the establishment of our country, an event in which members of the church had an important role—the First Congregational Church has made innumerable contributions to society while serving its central religious purpose. Recently I received a letter from the Reverend Dr. Leo D. Christian, which gives a brief history of the church—brief because it would take a volume the size of this RECORD adequately to document what has happened here over 3 centuries. This is an impressive example of the way in which our institutions ought to work, and how institutions can both serve the needs of their members and contribute to the greater society. I ask, because I think this is an example that should be widely shared, that the letter from the Reverend Dr. Leo D. Christian be printed here, and I again express my congratulations to Dr. Christian and the members of the church for their truly impressive record.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH,  
Rochester, MA.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE FRANK: On October the 13th, 2003, we at the First Congregational Church are celebrating our 300th Anniversary. As a Church we have had the privilege of not only watching the development of this nation and this commonwealth, but we participated in its very formation. The laws and governing principles were decided by the input and votes of our people along with the other great peoples of the day. A list of some notable people is as follows: Joseph Burge, First Representative to Province Court and John Hammond, Second Representative to Province Court. Representatives to the General Court before the Revolution; Abraham Holmes, John Hammond, Noah Sprague, Thomas Dexter, John Freeman, and Samuel Sprague.

Rochester Selectmen/Town Clerks: Between the years from 1690 to 1909, more than 30 of our members took on the civic roles of Town Clerk and Selectman, the first three being Samuel White, Samuel Hammond and Mark Haskell. From 1909 until present times, our members have continued to play a major part in local government.

When the settlers came to the shores of New England they found this a very rustic place in comparison to their mother country. Our first minister, the Reverend Samuel Arnold, noted that this was a dark wilderness. Our church has had the privilege of helping our nation and state be what it is today. Whether it was the issue of slaves or the